



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
10 October 2008

Original: English

Sixty-third session
Third Committee

Agenda item 97

Crime prevention and criminal justice

Belarus, Russian Federation and Uzbekistan: draft resolution

Improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 61/180 of 20 December 2006 on improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons and other relevant General Assembly resolutions on trafficking in persons and other contemporary forms of slavery,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 2008/33 of 25 July 2008 on strengthening coordination of the United Nations and other efforts in fighting trafficking in persons and previous Council resolutions on trafficking in persons,

Recalling further the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime¹ and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,² and welcoming the progress achieved by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography³ and the Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery,⁴

Recognizing that contemporary forms of slavery violate human rights and that trafficking in persons impairs the enjoyment of human rights, continues to pose a serious challenge to humanity and requires a concerted international response,

¹ Resolution 55/25, annex I.

² Ibid., annex II.

³ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2171, No. 27531.

⁴ Ibid., vol. 266, No. 3822.



Welcoming the decisions of the Human Rights Council to establish the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences, and to extend the mandates of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially in women and children, and the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,

Recognizing that broad international cooperation between Member States and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations is essential for effectively countering the threat of trafficking in persons and other contemporary forms of slavery, and inviting them to foster a global partnership against trafficking in persons and other contemporary forms of slavery, with a view to eliminating all contemporary forms of slavery and trafficking in persons and protecting and assisting their victims,

1. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider taking measures to ratify or accede to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime¹ and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,² and to implement fully all aspects of these instruments;

2. *Also urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider taking measures to ratify or accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography³ and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;⁵

3. *Welcomes* the steps taken by human rights treaty bodies and the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially in women and children, United Nations agencies and other concerned intergovernmental and governmental organizations, within their mandates, as well as civil society, to address the problem of trafficking in persons, and encourages them to continue doing so and to share their knowledge and best practices as widely as possible;

4. *Calls upon* Governments to criminalize trafficking in persons in all its forms and to condemn and penalize traffickers and intermediaries, while ensuring protection and assistance to the victims of trafficking with full respect for their human rights, and invites Member States to continue to support those United Nations agencies and international organizations that are actively involved in victim protection;

5. *Encourages* all stakeholders to strengthen coordination of efforts, including through the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons and regional and bilateral initiatives;

6. *Welcomes* the work carried out under the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking, and encourages the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to cooperate with relevant international organizations outside of the United Nations system, utilizing extrabudgetary resources, and to invite such organizations to participate, when appropriate, in the meetings of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons and to keep Member States informed of the schedule of and the progress made by the Coordination Group;

⁵ Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

7. *Recognizes* the importance of comparable data and of strengthening national capacity for the analysis of such data, and welcomes the efforts of the interagency coordination group, drawing on the comparative advantages of the respective agencies, to share information, experiences and good practices on anti-trafficking activities of the partner agencies with Governments, other international and regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and other relevant bodies;

8. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to publish a global report with reliable data on trafficking in persons by the end of 2008, and acknowledges the important work on data collection and analysis conducted by the International Organization for Migration through its global counter-trafficking module database;

9. *Takes note* of the discussions at the thematic debate of the General Assembly on human trafficking, held in New York on 3 June 2008, which included a discussion on the advisability of a United Nations strategy or plan of action on preventing trafficking in persons and protecting and assisting victims of trafficking;

10. *Invites* all Member States to continue consideration of the advisability of a global plan of action against trafficking in persons, which would support full and effective implementation of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, and other relevant legal instruments in this field, and invites the President of the General Assembly to facilitate this consideration and report to the Assembly on the results by the end of its sixty-third session;

11. *Invites* Member States to provide voluntary contributions to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in order to facilitate optimum implementation of its coordination functions, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to provide the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme with sufficient resources for the full implementation of its mandates, in conformity with its high priorities, and to provide adequate support to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and on possible approaches to improve coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons.